Modernization of autonomous minority colleges

2537. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is taking steps for modernization and upgradations of autonomous minority colleges;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the funds spent during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Whereas University Grants Commission (UGC) provides Development Grant to eligible autonomous colleges for modernization and upgradation, including those established by the minorities subject to their being eligible under the UGC Scheme for the purpose. Details of financial assistance provided to Minority colleges is not maintained separately.

Funds for University of Madras

2538. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether University of Madras has asked for Rs.100 crores from UGC as there is an urgent need to develop infrastructure such as hostel buildings for under privileged students, etc;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether funds worth Rs.4,000 crores allocated for expansion of general higher education in the country remain stuck in files with Planning Commission and have not reached UGC;

(d) if so the details thereof;

(e) whether University of Madras had been granted only Rs.16 crores as development fund under Eleventh Plan while Pondicherry University which is much younger and small had been granted Rs.252 cores; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) According to information furnished by University Grants Commission (UGC), no proposal has been received by it from the University of Madras seeking grants of Rs. 100.00 crores to develop the infrastructure of the University. However, a Special Grant of Rs.100.00 crore has been sanctioned on the occasion of 150th anniversary of the establishment of the University of Madras.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) The University of Madras is a State University established and maintained by the State Government of Tamil Nadu. The Central Government provides only supplemental funds to State universities for development. Pondicherry University is a Central University established and fully funded by the Central Government. Therefore, the quantum of funds provided by the Central Government to the University of Madras and Pondicherry University can not be compared. However, grants for Plan Schemes of Rs. 11829.05 lakhs has been allocated and Rs.5647.22 lakhs has been released to the University of Madras and grants for Plan Scheme of Rs.12812.50 lakhs has been allocated and Rs. 5882.04 lakhs has been released to the Pondicherry University during the Eleventh Plan Period. Besides a sum of Rs 3062.00 lakhs has been provided to Pondicherry University in the Eleventh Plan period for expansion of capacity consequent to implementation of Oversight Committee recommendations for reservation for the Other Backward Classes (OBC) category in Central Educational Institutions.

Schemes for muslim girls

2539. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any special schemes have been launched or are proposed to be launched for muslim girls, apart from Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas in Muslim concentrated districts of the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof with particular reference to Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBVs) are established under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme in educationally backward blocks for providing residential schools to SC, ST, OBC and Minority girls at upper primary level. KGBVs have been opened in 427 blocks in the country with a concentration of Muslim Population.

SSA also monitors programmatic interventions in 121 districts with a concentration of Muslim population. These include, *inter alia*, opening of new primary schools, opening of new upper primary schools, construction of additional classrooms and recruitment of teachers.

Apart from KGBV, the Department implements the Scheme for Providing Quality Education in Madarsas (SPQEM) to encourage traditional institutions to voluntarily introduce science, mathematics, Social Studies, Hindi, English in their curriculum so that children studying in these institutions attain academic proficiency.

(b) There are 13 KGBVs in Muslim concentration blocks in Andhra Pradesh. Apart from this, the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has reported that there is no special scheme for education of muslim girls in Andhra Pradesh.